

Amendments to the Claims

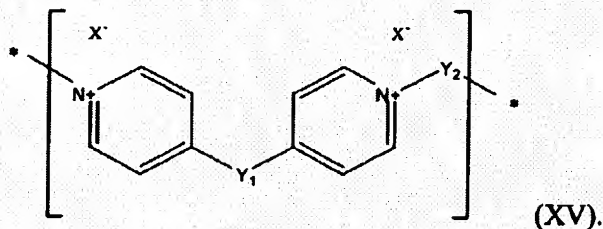
Please cancel claims 1-35, 51-58, 61-64 and 72-74. Please add new Claims 75 and 76.

The Claim Listing below will replace all prior versions of the claims in the application:

Claim Listing

1.-35. Canceled.

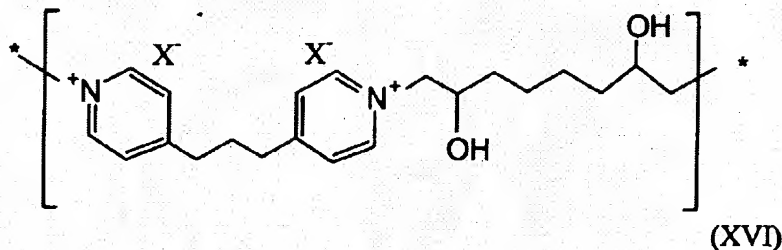
~~36.~~ (Original) A polymer or copolymer characterized by a repeat unit having the formula:

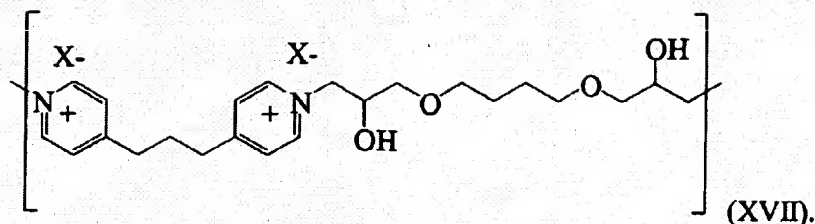


wherein Y_1 and Y_2 are independently a lower alkylene or lower alkylene glycol group, provided that Y_2 is substituted with two or more alcohol groups; each X^- , separately or taken together, is a physiologically acceptable anion; and said polymer or copolymer is substantially free of diphenol.

~~37.~~ ² (Original) The polymer of Claim ~~36~~, wherein said polymer is a homopolymer.

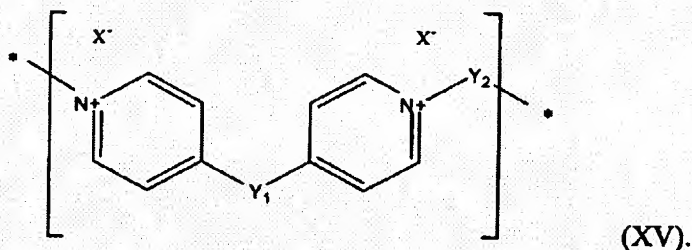
~~38.~~ ³ (Previously Presented) The polymer or copolymer of Claim ~~36~~ wherein the polymer or copolymer is characterized by repeat units of formula XVI or XVII:





39.

(Original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a physiologically acceptable carrier or diluent and a polymer or copolymer characterized by a repeat unit having the formula:



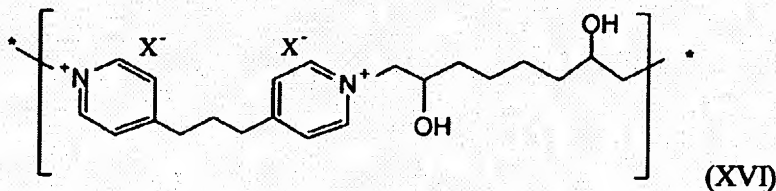
wherein Y_1 and Y_2 are each independently a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkylene or lower alkylene glycol group; and each X^- , separately or taken together, is a physiologically acceptable anion.

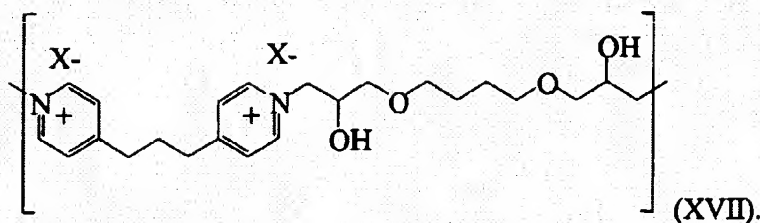
40.

(Original) The pharmaceutical composition of Claim 39, wherein at least one lower alkylene or lower alkylene glycol group represented by Y_1 and Y_2 is substituted.

41.

(Original) The pharmaceutical composition of Claim 39, wherein the polymer or copolymer is characterized by repeat units of formula XVI or XVII:





42. ⁷ (Original) A method of treating a microbial infection in a mammal comprising the step of administering to said mammal a therapeutically effective amount of a polymer or copolymer of Claim ~~36~~. ¹
43. ⁸ (Original) A method of treating a microbial infection in a mammal comprising the step of administering to said mammal a therapeutically effective amount of a homopolymer of Claim ~~37~~. ²
44. ⁹ (Original) A method of treating a microbial infection in a mammal comprising the step of administering to said mammal a therapeutically effective amount of a polymer or copolymer of Claim ~~38~~. ³
45. ¹⁰ (Original) A method of treating a microbial infection in a mammal comprising the step of administering to said mammal a therapeutically effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition of Claim ~~39~~. ⁴
46. ¹¹ (Original) A method of treating a microbial infection in a mammal comprising the step of administering to said mammal a therapeutically effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition of Claim ~~40~~. ⁵
47. ¹² (Original) A method of treating a microbial infection in a mammal comprising the step of administering to said mammal a therapeutically effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition of Claim ~~41~~. ⁶

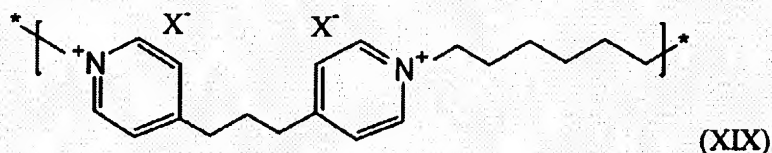
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~~48.~~ (Original) A method of inhibiting the growth of a microorganism on a surface comprising the step of contacting said surface with an effective amount of a polymer or copolymer of Claim ~~36.~~ 1

14
~~49.~~ (Original) A method of inhibiting the growth of a microorganism on a surface comprising the step of contacting said surface with an effective amount of a homopolymer of Claim ~~37.~~ 2

15
~~50.~~ (Original) A method of inhibiting the growth of a microorganism on a surface comprising the step of contacting said surface with an effective amount of a polymer or copolymer of Claim ~~38.~~ 3

51.-58. Canceled.

16
~~59.~~ (Withdrawn) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a polymer or copolymer characterized by a repeat unit having the formula:

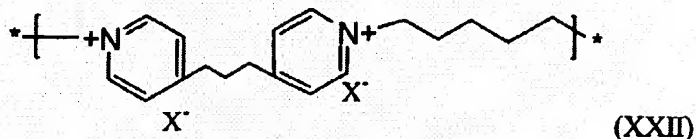


and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent, wherein each X⁻, separately or taken together, is a pharmaceutically acceptable anion.

17
~~60.~~ (Withdrawn) A method of treating a microbial infection in the gastrointestinal tract of a mammal comprising the step of administering to said mammal a therapeutically effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition of claim ~~59.~~ 16

61.-64. Canceled.

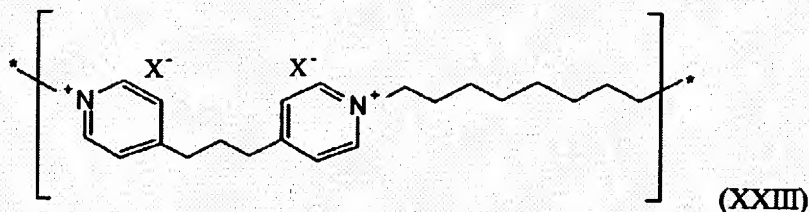
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65. (Withdrawn) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a polymer or copolymer characterized by a repeat unit having the formula:



and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent, wherein each X^- , separately or taken together, is a physiologically acceptable anion.

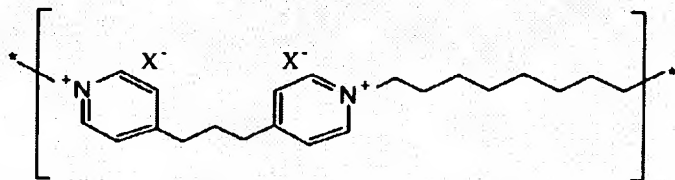
- 19
66. (Withdrawn) A method of treating a microbial infection of the oral mucosa or gastrointestinal tract of a mammal comprising the step of administering to said mammal a therapeutically effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition of claim 65. 18

- 20
67. (Withdrawn) A copolymer characterized by a repeat unit having the formula:



wherein each X^- , separately or taken together, is a physiologically acceptable anion.

- 21
68. (Withdrawn) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a polymer or copolymer characterized by a repeat unit having the formula:



(XXIII),

and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent, wherein each X^- , separately or taken together, is a physiologically acceptable anion.

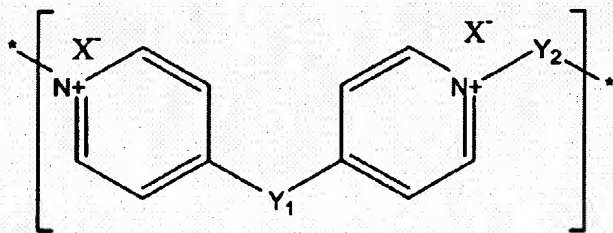
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69. (Withdrawn) A method of treating a microbial infection in a mammal comprising the step of administering to said mammal a therapeutically effective amount of a copolymer of claim 67. 20

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70. (Withdrawn) A method of treating a microbial infection in a mammal comprising the step of administering to said mammal a therapeutically effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition of claim 68. 21

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71. (Withdrawn) A method of inhibiting the growth of a microorganism on a surface comprising the step of contacting said surface with an effective amount of a copolymer of claim 67. 20

72.-74. Canceled.

25
75. (New) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a physiologically acceptable carrier or diluent and a polymer or copolymer characterized by a repeat unit having the formula:



(XV)

wherein Y_1 and Y_2 are each independently a lower alkylene or lower alkylene glycol group, provided that Y_2 is substituted with two or more alcohol groups; and each X^- , separately or taken together, is a physiologically acceptable anion.

26. (New) A method of treating a microbial infection in a mammal comprising the step of administering to said mammal a therapeutically effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition of Claim 25.